IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A vibration absorber for attaching to a rotatable driveshaft comprising an annular-cylindrical mass member (3) arranged at a radial distance from the driveshaft; a plurality of circumferentially spaced elastic supporting elements (4) shaped to be positioned on the driveshaft, which are firmly connected to the mass member (3) and which, relative thereto, extend radially inwardly; and ~~an~~ one elastic fixing sleeve (5) only shaped to be positioned on the driveshaft and which, at one end, is connected to the mass member (3),

wherein the supporting elements (4), in the axial direction, extend along only a portion of the length of the mass member (3), and are arranged at ~~an~~ a first axial distance from an end of the mass member (3) opposite the fixing sleeve (5) and at a second axial distance greater than the first from an end of the mass member next to the fixing sleeve (5).

2. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 1, wherein the fixing sleeve (5), starting from the end connected to the mass member (3), comprises a circumferentially closed, radially tapered sleeve portion (7).

3. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 2, wherein the fixing sleeve (5), at an end opposing the mass member (3), comprises a cylindrical collar portion (8) with a seat face (9).

4. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 1, wherein radial outside portions of the supporting elements (4) are connected to one another to form an annular elastic member (6).

5. (original) A vibration absorber according to claim 1, wherein the supporting elements (4) and the fixing sleeve (5) are integrally connected to one another in an annular elastic member (6).

6. (original) A vibration absorber according to claim 5, wherein the mass member (3), in the form of an insert, is integrally formed in the annular elastic member (6) with the supporting elements (4) and the fixing sleeve (5).

7. (original) A vibration absorber according to claim 1, wherein the cylindrical mass member (3) is metal.

8. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 7, wherein the cylindrical mass member is formed out of plate metal.

9. (original) A vibration absorber according to claim 3, wherein the sleeve portion (7) of the fixing sleeve (5) is shaped to be conical from the mass member (3) to the collar portion (8).

10. (original) A vibration absorber according to claim 9, wherein the wall thickness in the sleeve portion (7) decreases from the mass member (3) to the collar portion (8).

11. (original) A vibration absorber according to claim 9, wherein the wall thickness in the sleeve portion (7) is constant from the mass member (3) to the collar portion (8).

12. (original) A vibration absorber according to claim 9, wherein the wall thickness of the sleeve portion (7) increases from the mass member (3) to the collar portion (8).

13. (original) A vibration absorber according to claim 3, wherein the collar portion (8) of the fixing sleeve (5) comprises a continuous annular groove (11) for receiving a clamp band (12).

14. (cancelled)

15. (cancelled)

16. (cancelled)

17. (cancelled)

18. (original) A vibration absorber according to claim 1, wherein each of the supporting elements (4) comprise substantially identical cross-sectional shapes.

19. (original) A vibration absorber according to claim 1, wherein the supporting elements (4) are arranged so as to be uniformly circumferentially distributed at equal distances from one another.

20. (original) A vibration absorber according to claim 1, wherein the elastic material of the supporting elements (4) and of the fixing sleeve (5) is rubber.

21. (original) A vibration absorber according to claim 1, wherein the sleeve portion (7) includes openings formed therein.

22. (currently amended) A vibration absorber for attaching to a rotatable driveshaft comprising an annular-cylindrical mass member (3) arranged at a radial distance from the driveshaft; a plurality of circumferentially spaced elastic supporting elements (4) shaped to be positioned on the driveshaft, which are firmly connected to the mass member (3) and which, relative thereto, extend radially inwardly; and ~~an~~ one elastic fixing sleeve (5) only shaped to be positioned on the driveshaft and which, at ~~its~~ one end, is connected to the mass member (3),

wherein the supporting elements (4), in the axial direction, extend along only a portion of the length of the mass member (3),

wherein the supporting elements (4) are connected to the mass member (3) axially opposite the fixing sleeve (5) and

wherein the supporting elements (4) are arranged at least partially axially outside the length of the mass member (3) and adjoining an end of the mass member (3).

23. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 22, wherein the fixing sleeve (5), starting from the end connected to the mass member (3), comprises a circumferentially closed, radially tapered sleeve portion (7).

24. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 23, wherein the fixing sleeve (5), at an end opposing the mass member (3), comprises a cylindrical collar portion (8) with a seat face (9).

25. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 22, wherein radial outside portions of the supporting elements (4) are connected to one another to form an annular elastic member (6).

26. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 22, wherein the supporting elements (4) and the fixing sleeve (5) are integrally connected to one another in an annular elastic member (6).

27. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 26, wherein the mass member (3), in the form of an insert, is integrally formed in the annular elastic member (6) with the supporting elements (4) and the fixing sleeve (5).

28. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 22, wherein the cylindrical mass member (3) is metal.

29. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 28, wherein the cylindrical mass member is formed out of plate metal.

30. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 24, wherein the sleeve portion (7) of the fixing sleeve (5) is shaped to be conical from the mass member (3) to the collar portion (8).

31. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 30, wherein the wall thickness in the sleeve portion (7) decreases from the mass member (3) to the collar portion (8).

32. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 30, wherein the wall thickness in the sleeve portion (7) is constant from the mass member (3) to the collar portion (8).

33. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 30, wherein the wall thickness of the sleeve portion (7) increases from the mass member (3) to the collar portion (8).

34. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 24, wherein the collar portion (8) of the fixing sleeve (5) comprises a continuous annular groove (11) for receiving a clamp band (12).

35. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 22, wherein each of the supporting elements (4) comprise substantially identical cross-sectional shapes.

36. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 22, wherein the supporting elements (4) are arranged so as to be uniformly circumferentially distributed at equal distances from one another.

37. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 22, wherein the elastic material of the supporting elements (4) and of the fixing sleeve (5) is rubber.

38. (previously presented) A vibration absorber according to claim 22, wherein the sleeve portion (7) includes openings formed therein.

39. (new) A vibration absorber according to claim 22, wherein the supporting elements (4) are arranged completely axially outside the length of the mass member (3).

40. (new) A vibration absorber according to claim 22, wherein the supporting elements (4) are arranged partially axially outside and partially axially inside the length of the mass member (3).